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November 6, 1962

UNITED STATES DECLARATION IN SECURITY COUNCIL(ON ASSUMPTIONS OF FACTORY VERIFICATION
SOVIET REMOVAL OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONS.)

On October 27, 1962 President Kennedy replied to a letter sent by Premier Khrushchev on the preceding day, and in his reply stated that the proposals of Premier Khrushchev regarding a solution to the Cuban problem seemed generally acceptable. President Kennedy summarized the key elements of the proposals as follows:

(1) The USSR would agree to remove from Cuba, under appropriate United Nations observation and supervision, all weapons systems capable of offensive use; and the USSR would undertake, with suitable safeguards, to halt the further introduction of such weapons systems into Cuba; and

(2) The United States would agree -- upon the establishment of adequate arrangements through the United Nations to ensure the carrying out and continuation of these commitments -- (a) to remove promptly the quarantine measures now in effect, and (b) to give assurances against an invasion of Cuba; the President expressed his confidence that other nations of the Western Hemisphere would be prepared

to do likewise.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

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Date: 4/3/92

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On October 28, President Kennedy addressed a further letter to Premier Khrushchev, in answer to the Premier's message of the same day. The President said: "I consider my letter to you of October 27 and your reply of today as firm undertakings on part of both our Governments which should be promptly carried out." It is the understanding of the United States Government that the Soviet Government regards these undertakings in the same light.

The United States notes the statements made by the Soviet Union that offensive weapons systems have now been removed from Cuba and that no such systems will be re-introduced. We welcome these assurances.

The United States also notes the arrangements, which have been worked out by the Acting Secretary-General with the Soviet Government and the Government of Cuba, for international verification of the removal of offensive weapons systems [and international safeguards against the re-introduction of any such systems.] The United States appreciates the measures taken and the arrangements made, and expresses its satisfaction that it has been possible to provide these assurances to the peoples of the Western Hemisphere that the threat of offensive weapons against them has been removed and will not recur.

The United States Government, on its part, has taken the initiative in the Organ of Consultation under the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance to secure action terminating the effectiveness of the resolution adopted by that Organization on October 23 at such time as arrangements would have been completed to carry out the undertakings reached between the United States and Soviet Governments on October 27 and 28. At the conclusion of this meeting of the Security Council, the United States will notify the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States that the arrangements in question have been completed and, accordingly, the effectiveness of the resolution of October 23 should be considered as terminated.

In these circumstances, the United States will lift its defensive quarantine of ~~commerce~~^{ships} going to Cuba, and will terminate the proclamation of October 23 by which the quarantine was established in pursuance of the resolution adopted by the Organ of Consultation. The United States Government also gives assurances against an invasion of Cuba, in the light of the arrangements that have been made and on the understanding and condition that no offensive weapons systems are stationed in Cuba. The Organ of Consultation under the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance has also, in its resolution of

November

November _____, given expression to like assurances on the part of all of the member States.

The assurances against an invasion of Cuba have been given in connection with the carrying out of undertakings between the United States and Soviet Governments. These assurances are in conformity with the commitments of the American Republics under the Inter-American system, and do not alter the commitments of the United States or other countries of the Hemisphere under the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance or actions taken by organs of the Inter-American system in pursuance of the relevant Inter-American treaties. These commitments and the statement of the President of the United States of September 13 remain integral parts of United States foreign policy.